

**IMPROVED HYBRID GENE LIBRARIES AND USES THEREOF**

**ABSTRACT**

This invention relates to the construction and use of hybrid gene cDNA libraries. The vectors of such 5 libraries each comprise a hybrid protein region in which cDNA is placed upstream of a sequence encoding a common peptide. The cDNA population inserted into the hybrid proteins is derived from an mRNA template population using random primers, thus providing better 10 representation of the 5' end than if poly-T primers were used. The vector lacks a start codon before the multiple cloning site or in the common peptide so that only cDNA inserts containing a start codon result in a hybrid protein.